

Suggested materials list

Cartridge paper – this needs to be the **same size** as your oil painting substrate

Substrate (canvas, canvas board, birch board etc) You can pre-tone this a few days before with a mid-tone grey such as white/raw umber mix if you like.

Masking tape

Kneadable eraser

Pencils (H, HB, 2B)

A mix of sizes of flat, filbert and small round brushes

Palette

Rags

Brush cleaning materials – linseed oil and gamsol or whatever you usually use

Medium of your choice – (I personally use a 50/50- mix of stand oil and Gamsol)

Artist quality oil paint:

Translucent oxide

Crimson

Cadmium red

Cadmium yellow

Quinacridone red

Titanium white

Yellow ochre

Paynes grey/ivory black

Ultramarine blue

Raw umber

Any other colours you particularly like

Note: do your best with the paint colours that you already have but the cadmiums, translucent oxide and alizarin crimson are highly recommended to get the best out of the class.

3-day workshop breakdown

Aim: To complete an oil portrait from a live model, from pencil drawing through to finished piece

Day 1:

We will spend much of the day drawing the image freehand on paper. Drawing skills are the foundation of painting so the aim of this stage is to thoroughly become familiar with the image and to attain a high degree of accuracy before starting to paint. This image will be transferred to substrate when complete.

Day 1 discussions:

Sight-sizing

Cognitive biases

Alternate methods of laying down the foundation drawing such as gridding up and transfer from a photocopy or print.

Days 2 & 3

Develop and complete the oil portrait.

Discussions

Issues painting from life and cognitive biases

The use of varying brush strokes / brush sizes / detail to create an interesting surface which reflects the various textures of human skin and hair.

Capturing the 'essence' of the person

Soft edges to maintain looseness

Colour mixing for flesh tones - I will show you my favourite colour mixes.

Ways to add 'pop' to areas such as irises, noses etc

Glazing